

Palos Verdes Players Stage First Operetta Mar. 25 through 27

Gypsy magic will weave the story of "The Fortune Teller" by Victor Herbert, on the tiny stage of the Malaga Cove School Mar. 25, 26, and 27 when the Palos Verdes Players, present their first operetta.

On stage in an atmosphere of twirling skirts and the pulsating beat of tambourines will be 13 principals and a chorus of 20 voices, with Stan Johnson as director. Even Anderson shares directorial duties, providing the musical and orchestral background of the new production.

Ernest Kittell of Torrance will make his debut as the leading tenor, while his feminine partner will be Lilla Beauchamp of the South Bay Civic Opera Company, who appeared in "Bloomer Girl" and "The Lady from Paris."

Kittell has traveled with Larry Crosby on benefit tours for the Army Air Force, entertained veterans at the Sawtelle Hospital, and is booked for an appearance in Las Vegas with Slim Edwards' band.

Deviating from his recent role as the High Lama in "The Lost Horizon" is George Trumble, who will portray "The Count" when not emoting, he is a flight manager for United Airlines.

Others who will have major parts are Nadine Nickol of Torrance and Ann Flanagan, Torrance miss who is now a student at USC.

The Players were sponsored by Mrs. Coza Door of the Artists' Association and Woman's Club of San Pedro when they began in 1934 and have since been growing in stature.

Becoming an independent organization in 1940, they boasted Frank Conroy, stage and screen actor, as one of their initial directors. During the war years, Robert Bard led them through "Little Theater" offerings, which were held above the Palos Verdes drug store.

But through want of proper facilities to present its plays, the group gradually disintegrated until Glenn Cardiner, principal of San Pedro Elementary School, took it under his wing.

Through the adult education program, the Players found a haven at the Malaga Cove School. As an added incentive, topnotch directors were supplied through the Los Angeles Board of Education.

Stan Johnson began with eight Little Foxes."

Council PTA Hears: Civil Defense May Be Our Security for Future

Credited with being the first parent-teacher group of Tenth District to program a civil defense workshop, members of Gardena-Wilmington Council PTA received first-hand information regarding the civil defense program when the Council met at the Rosecrans Recreation Center last Friday.

Conducted by Mrs. Clinton H. Dickinson, director, Tenth District department of public welfare, the workshop featured as guest speakers Robert R. Ruggles, public relations representative, office of Civil Defense, City of Los Angeles; Joseph S. Fox, coordinator, waring service; and Dickinson pointed out to parent-teacher members, office of Civil Defense, County of Los Angeles.

Speaking on civil defense, Mrs. Dickinson pointed out to parent-teacher members the importance of becoming familiarized with the various aspects of this field. "Civil defense may well be our security for the future," she said, recommending courses in first aid and home nursing for parent-teacher groups.

Ruggles told the group, "Civil defense means the civilian population defending itself," and stressed the importance of training individuals to protect themselves, their family, and their property.

The major concern of civil defense is major disasters which result in loss of life and property, said Fox. He gave instruction in air raid warning, together with an outline of methods by which people could care for themselves during a disaster.

The civil defense program includes methods for the protection of children while at school, at home, and while in that area between home and school. Designated homes between a child's own home and the school are to be used as child care centers.

"In this event of a major disaster, we will be no stronger than our civil defense," Green said.

Klipwings Aid Foundation

The United Stewardess Alumnae, Inc., Klipwings, marked the close of a benefit ticket sale last Thursday night with a cocktail party for members and guests at the Santa Ynez Inn in Pacific Palisades.

Proceeds from the ticket drive will be presented to the Harbor Exceptional Children's Foundation School at the Governor Settlement House in San Pedro. Many South Bay residents participated in the philanthropy project.

THS Gals Get Posture Pins

Delores McCollum, senior at Torrance High School, is winner of the most coveted school title, the "Girl with the Best Posture." Delores received a pin, certificate, and gift with the title at a Girls League and call last week.

Runner-up for the award was Linda Thistle, a sophomore student, while winning honors as the girl with the most improved posture since last year was Theresa Bilgotti.

Courtesy Night Set by OES

District Courtesy Night will be observed tonight when Torrance Chapter No. 380, Order of the Eastern Star, meets at 8 o'clock at the Masonic Temple, 1321 1/2 Sartori Ave.

Mrs. Ethyl Peverley, is in charge of arrangements for the social hour which follows the meeting. All members of the Chapter and visiting members of the Order are invited to attend.

DOUBLE DUTY Baby Born at Mother's Old Training Place

Born at 6 a.m. Feb. 27 at Cottage Hospital in Santa Barbara, where his mother trained as a nurse, was 6 lb. 4 oz. Mark, first child of Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Gilmour; nee Mrs. Betty Lockman, of Santa Barbara.

The little bit of masculinity just missed being born on either dad's or mom's birthday; father's natal day is Feb. 20, before her marriage, Mrs. Gilmour made her home with her parents in Torrance; the maternal grandparents have since moved to Westchester. Paternal grandparents make their home in Santa Barbara.

Brownie Moms Plan Tuesday Spaghetti Feed

Final arrangements for the Mar. 9 fund-raising spaghetti dinner were made Wednesday of last week when the Mothers Club of Brownie Troop 315 met at the 1739 W. 246th St., Lomita home of Mrs. Robert Dean.

Profits from the dinner are to be used to help finance a trip on the train to the San Diego Zoo for the Brownies. Tentative date for the excursion is June 5.

Mrs. William Lillie, leader, and Mrs. Wesley Willoughby, co-leader, spoke on the annual birthday party for Brownies and Girl Scouts to be held at the Pacific Auditorium next Saturday, Mar. 6. The girls will travel by bus, leaving the school at 7:30 a.m.

Among recent activities enjoyed by the troop, which is sponsored by Harbor City PTA, was a visit to the Santa Fe Freight Station in Long Beach last Friday. The girls inspected the four trains on display as well as the new full dome lounge car that the railroad has just put into use.

Brownies going on the trip were Evelyn Tregarthen, Rea Lu Croover, Libby and Bonnie Cook, Betty La Grava, Sharon Watson, Linda Allred, Diana Willoughby, Nancy Dean, Susan Jones, Linda Howell, Sharon Stiles, Loretta Miller, Anita LeFeber, Anita Eggers, and Peggy Ann Trifon.

Adults accompanying the girls were Mrs. Willoughby, Mrs. Leon Eggers, Mr. and Mrs. D. Graves and William Howell.

70th Birthday Party Honors F. De Passe

Entertaining for her father, Fernand De Passe, 1632 Date Ave., on his 70th birthday recently were Mr. and Mrs. Frank Tuttle, 1750 Elm Ave.

De Passe, employee with the city street department for the past 11 years, retired last Monday.

Getting pieces of the birthday cake, frosted in green and inscribed in white with "Happy Birthdays, Father," were the Tuttle's and son, Frank Jr.; another daughter, Mrs. B. A. Mag-nante, her husband, and children; a son and his family, Fernand De Passe Jr.; a niece, Mrs. Ellsworth Burnside; and husband of Wilmington; and a daughter, Mrs. Joe Warren and her husband, who is a fireman with the Torrance Fire Department.

The Paul F. Fortins, 1622 Annapola Ave.

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Mrs. R. Payne Nominated as State Mother

Mrs. Robert (Frances) Payne, 2060 W. 160th St., has been nominated by the North Torrance Fuchsia Society for the 1954 State Mother of California, Mrs. Gerald Cunery, press chairman, revealed this week.

The contest for the State Mother is sponsored by the American Mothers Committee of the Golden Rule Foundation, who each year select a mother for this honor—a mother who is active in community and church affairs and above all, a mother who abides by the Golden Rule.

Mrs. Cunery said, "Unanimously nominated for the honor by the North Torrance group, Mrs. Payne has actively participated in local and national PTA work for over 15 years, now serving on Torrance Council. For over 10 years she has been Girl Scout work and at the present time supervises two Girl Scout troops.

She has participated in volunteer work for the Red Cross, Community Chest, and March of Dimes for over 15 years. Every summer she teaches in the vacation Bible School for the Presbyterian Church of Torrance and has worked with the WSCS at the First Methodist Church of Inglewood.

She has been married to Robert R. Payne, assistant foreman of the Inspection Department at North American Aircraft for 23 years. The couple has three daughters, Barbara Payne Will, Kinson, 23, Joanne Payne Lewis, 21, and Mary Louise Payne, 10, who attends North Torrance Elementary School.

"While Mrs. Payne is well-known for her activities in PTA, church groups, and community affairs, she is best known and loved for her wonderful character, under a smiling and insight," Mrs. Cunery said. "She truly lives by the Golden Rule, always lending a helping hand to neighbors and friends. Though she has been in ill health, she always retains her cheery smile and manner and continues to aid her community in every way possible."

'Stork Story' FROM TORRANCE MEMORIAL HOSPITAL.

Newest addition to the 16820 Casimir Ave. household of Mr. and Mrs. Glenn F. Hellman is a baby girl, who weighed 6 lbs. when born at 12:40 p.m. Feb. 25.

The Hellmans, also parents of two-and-a-half-year-old Mark and a 14-month-old Susan, named her Teresa Ann. Father works at Doak Aircraft; grandparents are the S. Liparis of Los Angeles and Mrs. A. B. Hellman of Phoenix, Ariz.

Allie Dwight Horton Jr., son of the senior Hortons, 1605 W. 227th St., now has a new baby sister, Susan Develle. The little miss arrived at 8:10 a.m. Feb. 26, weighing 6 lbs. 10 oz. Father is a flight mechanic for North American Aviation; Mr. and Mrs. Allie Devaur Horton of Houston, Tex., and Mrs. Lea Graves of Chino are grandparents.

Another baby girl who arrived Feb. 26 is Janice Marie, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Leroy C. Culley, 1531 Torrance Blvd. She weighed 8 lbs. 5 oz. when she made her first bow into the world at 6:30 p.m. Culley, who is an electrician for Culley and Goot Electric Co., and his wife also have one other child, a boy, Stephen, Messrs. and Messrs. Joe Nicoletti of the Torrance Blvd. address and J. B. Culley of Wichita Falls, Tex., are grandparents.

Announcing the arrival of their third son are George V. Dewey, pipefitter for the Wilmington Boat Works, and his wife, who live at 25841 Walnut Ave., Lomita. Born at 4:30 a.m. Feb. 27, weighing 8 lbs. 8 oz., has been named John Vincent. Brother Sherwood is 10, while brother George is 14. Mesdames J. E. Dewey of Amarillo, Tex., and Sayde Skinner of Newton, Kans. are grandmothers.

First child of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Edward Fortin, 1917 Plaza del Amo, who weighed 7 lbs. 15 1/2 oz. when born at 6:29 a.m. Feb. 27, has been named Mary Andrea. Father is a jig and fixture builder at Douglas Aircraft Co.; mother is the former Ruth Eldia Whitman, daughter of Mrs. Geneva Whitman, 1919 Plaza del Amo. Paternal grandparents are